



INTERPRETATIONS & APPLICATIONS
OF BUILDING CODES & REGULATIONS #04-1

CODE SECTION : IRC M1501.3

1/30/04

SUBJECT : Installation of Residential Dryer Vents

***International Residential Code Section M1501.3** - The maximum length of a clothes dryer exhaust duct shall not exceed 25 feet (7620 mm) from the dryer location to the wall or roof termination. The maximum length of the duct shall be reduced 2.5 feet (762 mm) for each 45-degree (0.79 rad) bend and 5 feet (1524 mm) for each 90-degree (1.6 rad) bend. The maximum length of the exhaust duct does not include the transition duct.*

***Exception:** Where the make and model of the clothes dryer to be installed is known and the manufacturer's installation instructions for such dryer are provided to the building official, the maximum length of the exhaust, including any transition duct, shall be permitted to be in accordance with the dryer manufacturer's installation instructions.*

Since it is not possible to know what dryer make and model will be installed by subsequent building occupants and the intent of the code is to ensure a safe installation, a placard will be required on all installations that do not meet the 25-foot length with reductions.

A durable placard at least 3 inches vertically and 4 inches horizontally, shall be permanently affixed near the dryer and contain the following message, with the appropriate values filled in:

WARNING -DO NOT REMOVE
THIS DRYER EXHAUST VENT HAS
THE FOLLOWING LENGTH



FEET

WITH



90° ELBOWS

&



45° ELBOWS

**TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE CAUSED BY LINT
BUILD-UP IN THE EXHAUST VENT ANY DRYER
INSTALLED AT THIS LOCATION SHALL BE
MANUFACTURER APPROVED (UL LISTED) FOR
CONNECTION TO AN EXHAUST VENT OF THIS LENGTH**